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Portland, OR 97202

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OREGON OPERATIONS OFFICE

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EPA-REGION 10

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U.S. EPA
ATTN: Harbor Comments
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Portland, OR 97205

I'm a firm believer that Mother Nature is a powerful force. She takes care of herself very well. Just look at recent oil spills. While everyone was running around in a panic, those areas were slowly reversing the damage. The same can be said for contaminants and pollutants at the bottom of the Willamette River. The environment always heals itself.

If the EPA really thinks it's necessary to save the river, why not consider an incremental approach? Think about how much money it took to produce the 10-year old plan that is being used to justify a \$1 billion expenditure to disrupt nature, and we're not even sure if it will work. Let's do this one small bite at a time.

Just like the price tag to dredge the river, residents and the tourism industry will also pay a price. I live near the Willamette. I grew up around it and remember being told not to play in the river. Well, the river is cleaner now than it was back then. It's become a great attraction for Portland and is a big part of our city. Anything that gets done should happen without deterring from the activities around the river. It could hurt our economy and cost us more than we can afford to pay.

Sincerely,

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